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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/378,671	08/20/1999	SHU LIN	RCA89727	9412

7590 07/16/2003

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EXAMINER

TRAN, THAI Q

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2615

DATE MAILED: 07/16/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/378,671

Applicant(s)

LIN ET AL.

Examiner

Thai Tran

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2-4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

2. Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Brodersen et al (WO 99/38098).

Regarding claim 1, Brodersen et al discloses a method for providing a User interface for use in a video decoder for processing a video program including encoded digital packetized data representative of a sequence of individual image (Figs. 7 and 9), comprising the steps of:

Generating a menu from stored data representative of a pre-formed menu containing a menu icon permitting User selection of data format conversion of said encoded digital packetized data from a read-only data format to a different recordable data format (page 1, lines 8-13, page 10, lines 20-23, and page 16, lines 3-19);

Generating navigation parameters compatible with said recordable data format in response to User selection of said menu icon (page 20, lines 12-28); and

Incorporating said navigation parameters in output data (page 20, lines 12-28).

Regarding claim 2, Brodersen et al discloses a user interface system (Fig. 9) for processing a video program including encoded digital packetized data representative of a sequence of individual images, comprising:

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a menu generator (page 14, lines 29-35) for generating a menu from stored data representative of a pre-formed menu containing an inactive menu icon;

a processor (page 14, lines 29-35) for activating said inactive menu icon by associating an active command with said inactive menu icon in response to a signal indicating addition of a video program related feature; and

a navigation processor (page 14, lines 29-35) linking said activated menu icon with said active command enabling User operation of said program related feature in response to User selection of said activated menu icon.

Regarding claim 3, Brodersen et al discloses the claimed wherein said pre-formed menu includes a plurality of inactive menu icons representing a selected set of predetermined video program related features for addition, and said activating processors selects one of said inactive menu icons in response to a signal indicating addition of a video program related feature (page 14, lines 29-35).

Regarding claim 4, Brodersen et al discloses the claimed wherein said pre-formed menu contains a menu icon permitting User selection of data format conversion of said encoded digital packetized data from a first data format to a different second data format (page 1, lines 8-13, page 10, lines 20-23, and page 16, lines 3-19).

Regarding claim 5, Brodersen et al discloses the claimed wherein said first data format is a read-only data format and said different second data format is a recordable data format (page 1, lines 8-13, page 10, lines 20-23, and page 16, lines 3-19).

Regarding claim 6, Brodersen et al discloses the claimed wherein said stored data representative of a pre-formed menu is constrained to a predetermined set of

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parameters including at least one of, (a) a defined start address of said representative data, (b) a defined end address of said representative data, (c) a defined size of said representative data, (d) a fixed menu language, and (e) defined menu icon text labels (page 10, lines 3-6).

Regarding claim 7, Brodersen et al discloses the claimed wherein said navigation processor links said activated menu icon with one of a constrained set of video program related features in response to User selection of said activated menu icon (page 14, lines 29-35).

Regarding claim 8, Brodersen et al discloses the claimed wherein said inactive menu icon is invisible and is rendered visible by said menu generator in response to said signal indicating addition of a video program related feature (page 14, lines 29-35).

Regarding claim 9, Brodersen et al discloses the claimed wherein said pre-formed menu is an existing User operational menu containing an inactive menu icon (page 14, lines 29-35).

Regarding claim 10, Brodersen et al discloses the claimed wherein said activated menu icon supports User function selection associated with a video program and is activated in response to a signal indicating at least one of, (a) recording of said video program and (b) format conversion of said video program (page 1, lines 8-13, page 10, lines 20-23, and page 16, lines 3-19).

Regarding claim 11, Brodersen et al discloses the claimed wherein said processor activates said inactive menu icon by substituting said active command for an inactive command associated with said inactive menu icon (page 14, lines 29-35).

Regarding claim 12, Brodersen et al discloses a User interface system (Fig. 9) for use in a video decoder processing a video program including encoded digital packetized data representative of a sequence of individual images, comprising:

a menu generator (page 13, lines 10-35) for generating a menu from stored data representative of a pre-formed menu, said stored data having at least one of (a) a predetermined size and (b) a predetermined memory location;

a processor (page 13, lines 10-35) for customizing said pre-formed menu by selecting a video program processing feature for incorporation in said video decoder in response to User generated data; and

a navigation processor (page 14, lines 29-35) linking a menu icon in said pre-formed menu with a function involved in said program processing feature in response to said User generated data.

Regarding claim 13, Brodersen et al discloses the claimed wherein said pre-formed menu includes a plurality of inactive menu icons representing a selected set of predetermine video program related features for addition, and said navigation processor links one of said menu icons to a selected one of said set of predetermined video program related features in response to said User generated data (page 14, lines 29-35).

Regarding claim 14, Brodersen et al discloses the claimed wherein said pre-formed menu contains an invisible inactive menu icon and said invisible inactive menu icon is rendered visible by said menu generator in response to said User generated data (page 14, lines 29-35).

Regarding claim 15, Brodersen et al discloses the claimed wherein said pre-formed menu contains an inactive menu icon and said inactive menu icon is activated by said customizing processor to support User function selection associated with a video program and is activated in response to a signal indicating at least one of, (a) recording of said video program and (b) format conversion of said video program (page 1, lines 8-13, page 10, lines 20-23, and page 16, lines 3-19).

Regarding claim 16, Brodersen et al discloses the claimed a User interface system (Fig. 7) for use in a video decoder processing a video program including encoded digital packetized data representative of a sequence of individual images, comprising

a menu generator (page 13, lines 10-35 and page 14, lines 29-35) for generating a menu from stored data representative of a pre-formed menu and said pre-formed menu includes a plurality of inactive menu icons representing a selected set of predetermined video program related features for addition; and

a processor (page 13, lines 10-35 and page 14, lines 29-35) for customizing said pre-formed menu in response to User generated data by

selecting a video program processing feature for incorporation in said video decoder (page 14, lines 29-35) and

linking one of said menu icons to a selected one of said set of predetermined video program related features (page 14, lines 29-35).

Regarding claim 17, Brodersen et al discloses the claimed wherein said inactive menu icons are invisible and are rendered visible by said menu generator in response to said User generated data (page 14, lines 29-35).

Regarding claim 18, Brodersen et al discloses the claimed wherein said stored data representative of a pre-formed menu is constrained to a predetermined set of parameters including at least one of, (a) a defined start address of said representative data, (b) a defined end address of said representative data, (c) a defined size of said representative data, (d) a fixed menu language, and (e) defined menu icon text labels (page 10, lines 3-6).

Regarding claim 19, Brodersen et al discloses a method for generating a graphical User interface for use in a video decoder for processing a video program including encoded digital packetized data representative of a sequence of individual images (Fig. 9), comprising the steps of:

generating a menu for stored data representative of a pre-formed menu containing an inactive menu icon (page 14, lines 29-35);

activating said inactive menu icon by associating an active command with said inactive menu icon in response to a signal indicating addition of a video program related feature (page 14, lines 29-35); and

linking said activated menu icon with said active command enabling User operation of said program related feature in response to User selection of said activated menu icon (page 14, lines 29-35).

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Regarding claim 20, Brodersen et al discloses the claimed wherein in said generating step said pre-formed menu contains a menu icon permitting User selection of data format conversion of said encoded digital packetized data from a first data format to a different second data format ((page 1, lines 8-13, page 10, lines 20-23, and page 16, lines 3-19).

Regarding claim 21, Brodersen et al discloses the claimed wherein said first data format is a read-only data format and said different second data format is a recordable data format (page 1, lines 8-13, page 10, lines 20-23, and page 16, lines 3-19).

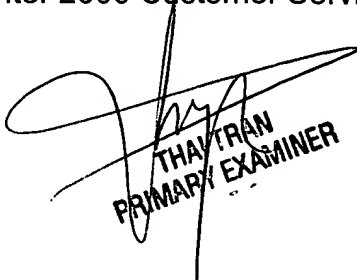
3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The cited references relate to an graphical user interface.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thai Tran whose telephone number is (703) 305-4725. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. to Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9314 for regular communications and (703) 872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.



THAI TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER